



Information and Insights

What Makes CAEP Exceptional

Vision: *Excellence in educator preparation accreditation.*

Mission: *CAEP advances equity and excellence in educator preparation through evidence-based accreditation that assures quality and supports continuous improvement to strengthen P-12 student learning.*

The Standards - The CAEP Standards are based on evidence of what is most effective in successful teaching - content expertise, clinical experience, recruitment, and support to candidates, learning outcomes for K-12 learners, and continuous improvement. CAEP bylaws require a review of the CAEP Standards every seven years to ensure best practice and research supporting the standards is up to date.

The CAEP Standards are the only set of educator preparation standards supported by both national teachers' unions.

Commitment to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: CAEP's commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion begins with our mission and with representation of our Board, volunteers, and staff. We ensure that all volunteers and staff complete implicit bias training and our work, including the development of our standards and workbook, is informed by CAEP's diversity, equity, and inclusion committee. We also are proud to partner with organizations supporting minority serving providers, such as Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity.

Our standards address diversity, equity and inclusion in a number of ways. Standard 1 ensures candidates effectively work with diverse P-12 learners and their families. Standards 2 and 4 ensure providers have experiences designed to develop candidate's knowledge, skills, & dispositions to demonstrate positive impact on students' learning and development. Standard 3 challenges providers to look for creative ways to recruit and retain diverse candidates. Finally, Standard 5 ensures there is a quality assurance system in place to monitor progress of all the standards for all candidates.

CAEP's commitment to inclusion provides opportunities for EPPs to work to create a more diverse teaching force. Fourteen percent of all CAEP accredited EPPs are historically minority serving institutions, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions and Tribal Colleges.

Technology: The CAEP Standards emphasize the need for the integration of technology throughout educator preparation. Teachers must be able to understand and apply technological concepts to improve learning for all students. CAEP partners with the International Society for Technology in Education to expand and scale digital equity through the support of the [EPP Digital Equity and Transformation Initiative](#).

Standard 1 requires that candidates model and apply national or state approved technology standards to engage and improve learning for all students. Standard 3 requires candidates demonstrate the ability to integrate technology effectively in their practice and field of certification. Standard 6 ensures professional development opportunities are in place for faculty including training in the use of technology.

Serving all EPPs: CAEP is committed to serving all types of providers from traditional to alternative with different approaches to continuous improvement efforts. CAEP training focuses on evidence and data, allowing an EPP to provide context to its specific situation. More than a third of all CAEP EPPs have less than 50 completers. Last year CAEPs providers included five EPPs with one completer, while our largest EPP had nearly 5,900 completers.

Experience and Integrity: CAEP has a global reputation for quality and integrity serving more than 600 providers. CAEP accreditation is a peer-driven volunteer process. All volunteers complete training which includes exercises to identify implicit biases that may impact decision making. CAEP uses reviewers from a national pool to ensure consistency and impartiality in the review process. Impartiality in the review process is a key element to ensuring reviews are fair and ethical. **CAEP does not allow an EPP to appoint their own reviewers.**

States increasingly recognize CAEP for reciprocity, demonstrating confidence with the standards and process. CAEP's standards are widely recognized among states and many states offer abbreviated transfer and licensing processes for candidates coming from CAEP-accredited providers. CAEP's standards are widely recognized among states and, as such, assist providers recruiting candidates from across state lines whether those candidates are in person or through on-line enrollments.

Multiple Reviews: The CAEP accreditation process allows multiple opportunities for providers to respond to any concerns with multiple reviews of evidence to make sure we get it right. All decisions are calibrated with each other to ensure fairness and equity. Just as CAEP accreditation promotes quality assurance from providers, CAEP also collects and uses data and evidence about our processes so that we can continuously improve as an organization.

Continuous Improvement: CAEP accreditation helps providers to establish and refine quality assurance systems and many providers tell us the process has helped faculty to focus on common goals that matter to the EPP. CAEP allows the provider to generate data to support claims and fend off threats from lower quality competition. CAEP accreditation allows for a comparison with national benchmarks and creates learning opportunities and motivation for positive growth and change. CAEP's extensive partnerships with states help to ensure that the process promotes continuous improvement and eliminates duplication of reviews for providers.

Accountability: Accreditation provides accountability for both consumers and the public. CAEP is the only accreditor of educator preparation providers that has taken action to deny or revoke accreditation for underperforming EPPs and is the only accreditor used entirely by states for accountability and continuous improvement. CAEP also utilizes a probation process for EPPs that need additional work to meet the standards, requiring additional reviews to ensure improvement is being made. **CAEP has never accredited an educator preparation provider denied accreditation by another nationally recognized accreditor.**

CAEP Partnerships and Scope: CAEP has accredited EPPs in 45 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Jordan, and the United Arab Emirates. CAEP has agreements to coordinate accreditation with 33 states. CAEP also has agreements with 13 Specialized Professional Associations, which specialize in specific content area reviews. CAEP partnerships mean less duplication of efforts for our providers.

Note: States in green have agreements with CAEP. States with partial green indicates state accepts CAEP accreditation as part of state process.

